

CLAIMS:

1. A method for facilitating reporting of patent infringements, the method comprising:

5 obtaining a report of patent infringement activity from a reporter, the reporter having an identity;

presenting information comprising the report to an interested party while protecting the identity of the reporter.

10 2. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the interested party is a patent owner.

3. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising receiving compensation for the presenting.

15 4. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising providing compensation to the reporter for the report.

20 5. A method as recited in claim 1 further comprising persisting and organizing the report in a database containing similar reports.

6. A method as recited in claim 1, wherein the reporter is an infringer, the method further comprising facilitating a resolution of an infringement conflict between the interested party and the infringer.

5 7. A method as recited in claim 6, wherein, during the facilitating, the identity of the infringer is protected.

8. A method as recited in claim 6 further comprising facilitating transfer of fee resulting from the resolution from the infringer to the interested party.

9. A method as recited in claim 6 further comprising facilitating transfer of fee resulting from the resolution from the infringer to the interested party, while protecting the identity of the infringer.

10. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs a method comprising:
obtaining a report of patent infringement activity from a reporter, the reporter having an identity;

20 presenting information comprising the report to an interested party while protecting the identity of the reporter.

11. A method for facilitating reporting of violations, the method comprising:

obtaining a report of a violation from a reporter, the reporter having an identity;

5 presenting information comprising the report to an interested party while protecting the identity of the reporter.

12. A method as recited in claim 11, wherein the identity of the reporter is protected during the presenting.

10 13. A method as recited in claim 11, wherein multiple reports are obtained by the obtaining and multiple reports are presented by the presenting.

14. A method as recited in claim 13 further comprising classifying
15 the multiple reports.

15. A method as recited in claim 11, wherein the violation is an infringement of an intellectual property right.

20 16. A method as recited in claim 15, wherein the intellectual property right is related to a one or more rights selected from a group consisting patents, copyrights, trademarks, trade dress, trade dilution, trade secrets, and unfair competition.

17. A method as recited in claim 11, wherein the violation is a violation of one or more laws selected from a group consisting of environmental laws and customs laws.

5 18. A method as recited in claim 11, wherein the interested party is a patent owner.

19. A method as recited in claim 11 further comprising receiving compensation for the presenting.

10 20. A method as recited in claim 11 further comprising providing compensation to the reporter for the report.

21. A method as recited in claim 11 further comprising persisting and
15 organizing the report in a database containing similar reports.

22. A method as recited in claim 11, wherein the reporter is a violator, the method further comprising facilitating a resolution of a violation conflict between the interested party and the violator.

20 23. A method as recited in claim 22, wherein, during the facilitating, the identity of the violator is protected.

24. A method as recited in claim 22 further comprising facilitating
25 transfer of fee resulting from the resolution from the violator to the interested party.

25. A method as recited in claim 22 further comprising facilitating transfer of fee resulting from the resolution from the violator to the interested party, while protecting the identity of the violator.

5 26. A method as recited in claim 11, wherein the obtaining comprises receiving reports via the Internet.

27. A method as recited in claim 11, wherein the obtaining comprises generating Web pages for delivery over the Internet.

10 28. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs a method comprising:
obtaining a report of a violation from a reporter, the reporter having an identity;

15 presenting information comprising the report to an interested party while protecting the identity of the reporter.

29. A method for facilitating reporting of patent infringements, the method comprising:

20 obtaining a report of patent infringement activity from an infringer, the infringer having an identity;

facilitating a resolution of an infringement conflict between an interested party and the infringer.

30. A computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions that, when executed by a computer, performs a method comprising:

obtaining a report of patent infringement activity from an infringer, the infringer having an identity;

5 facilitating a resolution of an infringement conflict between an interested party and the infringer.

31. A method for facilitating reporting of violations, the method comprising:

10 obtaining a report from a violator of its violation, the violator having an identity;

facilitating a resolution of a violation conflict between an interested party and the violator.

15 32. A method as recited in claim 31, wherein the violation is an infringement of an intellectual property right.

33. An architecture for facilitating reporting of violations, the architecture comprising:

20 a violation-report-submission station configured to obtain a report of a violation from a reporter, the reporter having an identity;

a violation-report presenter configured to present information comprising the report to an interested party while protecting the identity of the reporter.

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34. An architecture as recited in claim 33 further comprising a database configured to store the report.

35. An architecture as recited in claim 33, wherein the violation is an
5 infringement of an intellectual property right.